

Regular Meeting
Monday, October 4, 2010
6:00pm
Chowan County Public Safety Center
305 West Freemason Street

MINUTES

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Monday, October 4, 2010 at 6:00pm in the Chowan County Public Safety Center, 305 West Freemason Street Edenton NC. Present Chairman Eddy Goodwin, Vice Chairman Emmett Winborne, Commissioners Keith Nixon, Kenny Goodwin, Ralph Cole, Jimmy Alligood and Louis Belfield. Staff Present Finance Officer Lisa Jones; Interim Manager Paul Parker; Board Clerk Susanne Stallings and County Attorney John Morrison.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin called the meeting to order and then led the group in the pledge.

Commissioner Alligood provided the invocation.

Public Comment

Chairman Eddy Goodwin opened the floor to public comment, there was none.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for any questions or comments on the consent agenda.

a. Tax Release and Collector's Report (attached)

Bird, S.	\$161.79	SITUS Missouri – Military
Bird, S.	\$157.00	SITUS Missouri – Military
Leary, T.	\$109.58	Farm Truck Sold
Morrison, J.	\$174.78	SITUS West Virginia – Military
Parks, A.	\$101.72	Listed on another account 6758
US Bank	\$245.20	Vehicle totaled

b. Minutes

Minutes of the September 13, 2010 Regular Meeting and September 20, 2010 Executive Session.

c. Recommended Budget Amendments

BA-1011-020			
3531	DSS	\$16,561	Increase revenue from Dept of Health & Human Services for additional ARRA funding for a temporary worker for Food & Nutrition Services (100% funds – no match required)
5351	DSS	\$16,561	Increase expense for salary & FICA expense for the temporary worker for Food & Nutrition Services program

BA-1011-021			
3531	DSS	\$ 1,357	Increase revenue from Dept of Health & Human Services for domestic violence funding to expand eligibility of covered individuals
5351	DSS	\$ 1,357	Increase expenditures to provide temporary shelter and counseling services

BA-1011-022			
3839	Misc	\$10,303	Increase revenue from a transfer from the Water fund to purchase Building Inspections truck transferred on 7/20/2010
4350	Inspections	\$10,303	Increase expenditure to make a principal payment on lease purchase

BA-1011-023			
3523	JCPC	\$ 400	Increase revenue from Dept of Juvenile Justice grant (100% grant – no match required).
5230	JCPC	\$ 400	Increase expenditures for JCPC Council administrative expenses including training and related expense, per diems and public awareness of the Juvenile Justice and delinquency Prevention Program

Commissioner Keith Nixon moved to approve items a-c. Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

d. ABC Board Compensation

Effective October 1, 2010, County Boards will have to reaffirm the compensation of ABC Board members if their compensation is over \$150. The Board of Commissioners approved in July 2009, compensation of \$200 for the Chairman of the ABC Board and the other Board members are compensated at \$75. The Finance Committee has recommended approve of this reaffirmation of the salary to be in compliance with the new statutes. NCGS § 18B-700 (g)

e. Surplus Items

A list of items compiled by staff that has been determined to be surplus property is attached. In order for the items to be liquidated, the Board must declare it surplus by a unanimous vote pursuant to NCGS 160 A – 266 (c). It is recommended that the Board declare the property as surplus and authorize the County Manager to arrange the sale or disposition of the property, to be sold “as is” in accordance with the General Statutes.

Commissioner Belfield moved that the Board approve items d & e. Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor the motion passed (7-0).

FY 08-09 Audit Report

The County's Auditor, Bryan Starnes with Martin Starnes and Associates formally presented the FY 09-10 Independent Audit with financial statements and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Starnes commended the Board for adding to the fund balance and stated that Chowan County is rapidly moving toward financial solid ground.

The Board discussed various slides in the PowerPoint in more detail specifically EMS Fund which Mr. Starnes noted is common in most Counties.

Ms. Jones noted a copy of the Audit PowerPoint would be placed online for the public to review.

(a copy of the PowerPoint is in the meeting file labeled October 4, 2010).

Text Amendment – CC-TA-10-02 – Public Hearing

Interim Planner Morgan Jethro provided a recommendation from the Chowan County Board to amend the Chowan County Zoning Ordinance, Article V, to amend the language in Table 5-1 to allow Auction Houses in the A1 Zoning District as a conditional use rather than permitted by right to ensure ample parking exists and not be impacts on traffic or disturbance to adjacent properties.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin then opened the floor to the public hearing.

Douglas Stallings asked if this would impact existing auction houses in the County.

Ms. Jethro said no.

Mr. Arnesen the developer of a potential auction house stated that he will adhere to all requirements of the amendment or special use permit.

Being no further public comment Chairman Eddy Goodwin closed the floor to the public hearing.

Commissioner Alligood moved that the Board approve the text amendment as presented.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Internal Committee Reports

Planning/Enterprise Committee –met on Tuesday, September 21, 2010. Commissioner Nixon noted that there were no recommendations from the committee for full Board consideration.

Finance Sub-Committee –met on Tuesday, September 21, 2010. Commissioner Kenny Goodwin will provide an update on the items discussed.

Commissioner Kenny Goodwin stated that the Committee recommended that the full Board discuss the upcoming ¼ Sales Tax Referendum.

Commissioner Keith Nixon stated that in past budget planning cuts were made to non-mandated services in the Recreation Department and Senior Center. He stated that he felt this revenue source would be good for these departments. He stated he felt it would give citizens a tangible item for the sales tax. He noted currently the Board has designated the Land Transfer Tax for the schools.

Commissioner Alligood asked if the monies should help supplement EMS.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin stated that estimates state 25-30% of the tax is paid by visitors to the County.

Commissioner Belfield stated he felt a portion of the money should go to the schools.

Commissioner Winborne asked if the money could be used to reduce debt service.

Commissioner Kenny Goodwin stated that he did not think voters would support a tax to reduce the debt service payments.

Commissioner Winborne stated that the public did show most concern for Recreation and Senior Center services during budget planning.

Commissioner Nixon noted that the Board is reducing and eliminating debt and is building fund balance to address debt.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for public comment.

John Mitchener stated that the Board should consider that the General Assembly is projected to make cuts to education expenses.

John Sams stated that he did not support the tax because the process of designating it is backwards.

Being no further public comment Commissioner Belfield moved that the Board designate any revenue from sales tax to the school system, senior center and recreation department.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion failed (2-5 Winborne, K. Goodwin, E. Goodwin, Nixon and Alligood).

Commissioner Nixon moved to designate the monies for Recreation and Senior Center revenue for budget planning.

Commissioner Belfield stated his concern with not giving the monies to the schools.

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed (5-2 Belfield Cole).

Human Services Committee – met as the full Board on Monday September 20, 2010. There were no recommendations from the committee for full Board consideration.

Public Safety Committee – did not meet in September.

External Board/Committee Reports

Chairman Eddy Goodwin stated that the Board members are asked to report on the activities of the external boards to which they have been appointed

Commissioner Belfield reported that the Health Department Board is reviewing its drug/alcohol policy and the renovation of the mental health building for a move of the Health Department Offices. He added that the JCPC Board met and is facing a 5% reduction in state funds.

Commissioner Cole stated that the COA Board would be meeting next week to revise its policy manual. The Hospital Directors Council will meet in November and the DSS Director will provide a report to the Board November.

Board Appointments

Board Clerk Susanne Stallings noted that the Board members have received applications to review for appointments to the Town of Edenton Planning Board (two vacancies, appointee must live within ETJ) she noted that applications are attached.

Commissioner Alligood moved to appoint EC Toppin and Bill Moore to the Town of Edenton Planning Board. Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Recreation Department Annual Report

Interim Director Mary Sawyer provided the Board with the annual report on the activities of the Recreation Department. (A copy of the PowerPoint is in the meeting file labeled October 4, 2010.)

Senior Center Department Annual Report

Senior Center Director Connie Parker provided the Board with the annual report on the activities of the Senior Center. (A copy of the PowerPoint is in the meeting file labeled October 4, 2010.)

Chairman Eddy Goodwin called for a 10 minute recess. Afterwards he reconvened the meeting.

Finance Officer Report

Finance Officer Lisa Jones provided the Board with the August 2010 Cash and Investment Balance Report with a total of \$8,177,896 (a copy of the report is in the meeting file labeled

October 4, 2010). She discussed the breakdown of the distribution of sales tax monies already to the schools.

Commissioner Winborne requested a report on 6 months of departmental expenditures.

Manager's Items

- Status of Office Consolidation

Paul stated the move is continuing, he stated the Planning/Enterprise Committee is going to review the plan and the plan is to move Tax/Water by mid December .He stated that Inspections/Planning will be up and running on Friday.

- Planning Position

Mr. Parker asked if the Board wishes for him to hire this position out. Chairman Eddy Goodwin stated this would be discussed in more detail in Executive Session.

Timely & Important Matters

Commissioner Winborne asked for more information on the damage to Dillards and Bennetts Millponds. Mr. Parker shared photographs of the damage (a copy of the photos is in the meeting file labeled October 4, 2010). He stated he is working with a contractor to discuss potential repairs and is also pursuing more information from FEMA.

Executive Session

Commissioner Alligood moved that the Board go into Executive Session in accordance with: NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) and (5).

Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

The minutes of the executive session are sealed.

Commissioner Cole moved that the Board adjourn the Executive session. Chairman Eddy Goodwin asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman
Edward C. Goodwin

Clerk